

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Sixth Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Sixth Worcester Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.9% (1,159) reside in the Sixth Worcester Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (220) of Sixth Worcester Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 69.0% of admissions from the Sixth Worcester Representative District were male and 30.9% were female.
- Over 63.2% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 74.7% of admissions were white non-Latino, 1.5% were black non-Latino, 20.4% were Latino, 0.3 were Asian, and 3.2% were other racial categories.
- 63.3% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 13.7% were married, and 16.6% reported not to be married now.
- 37.1% of admissions had less than high school education, 49.2% completed high school, and 13.6% had more than high school education.
- 35.3% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 5.7% of those admitted were homeless.
- 12.6% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

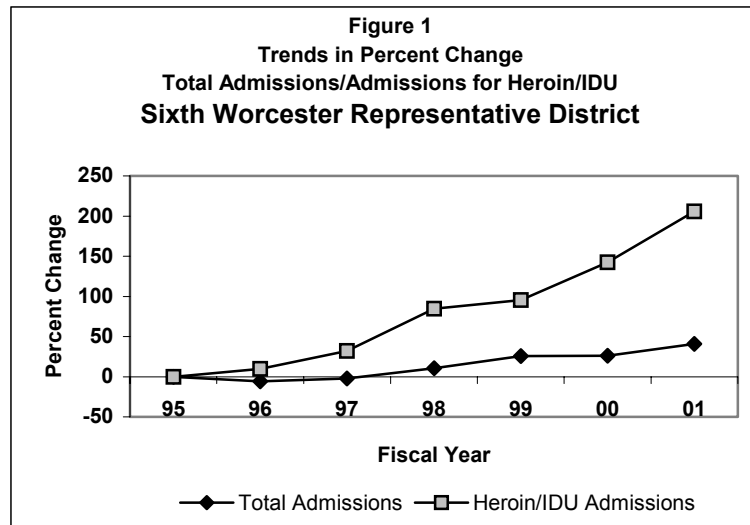
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Sixth Worcester Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Sixth Worcester Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	823	664	223	141	83	194	106
FY '96	777	621	229	157	85	197	132
FY '97	806	658	286	194	107	214	182
FY '98	910	716	329	202	141	311	243
FY '99	1033	792	366	235	135	334	252
FY '00	1,037	783	376	255	145	417	310
FY '01	1,159	785	385	243	119	511	406

- Since FY 1996, residents of Sixth Worcester Representative District reported a steady increase across all the drug categories.
- Between FY 1996 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use more than doubled, and, alcohol use increased by 26%, marijuana by 68%, cocaine by 54%, and crack use by 40%.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Sixth Worcester Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 40% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 205%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Sixth Worcester Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	42.9%	41.2%	9.4%	2.6%	1.4%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While alcohol, cocaine, and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, heroin and marijuana was higher within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000